

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
*Capitol*  
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

news

from  
Hollywood

MARCH 1948  
VOL. 6 NO. 3

*Andy Russell*







Joe Reichman's ork opens at the L. A. Ambassador Hotel (Cocoanut Grove) March 9 for four weeks, following Freddy Martin and preceding Guy Lombardo.

Doris Day's next pic for Warner Bros. will be in Technicolor and titled "My Dream Is Yours." Mike Curtiz will produce it.

Margaret Whiting, soon to make a tour east, flew back to Hollywood after a "command performance" before President Truman.

Vido Musso leading 15-piece band in and around L. A.



VIC DICKENSON'S sprightly and musical little combo brought a breath of fresh air to stale Hollywood nitelife when it opened, with Ella Fitzgerald, at Billy Berg's Club Feb. 18. Dickenson is one of the true tram virtuosos; his band is one of the best, these days, on the west coast.



## Catch As Catch Can

FRANCIS CRAIG'S frankness is incredible. Asked last month how he happened to use that left-hand boogie figure as the basis of his "Near You" click, Craig answered promptly:

"Eddie Heywood recorded it several years ago and I simply copied him."

\* \* \*

One of these fine days, perhaps before summer, Criterion of New York will publish the 1948 edition of Charles Delaunay's "Hot Discography." For record collectors all over the world the day will be strictly red-letter. The book is that important.

It's a volume that reveals precisely what musicians made what records, where and when. Clear back to King Oliver and Bix, right up to Kenton and Yardbird, "Hot Discography" gives personnels and vital information on thousands and thousands of waffles in the jazz idiom.

But fair warning is hereby served. Start saving your money. It will be an expensive book. The galley proofs indicate that "Hot Discography" will be worth whatever the publisher asks, moreover. It's worth waiting for.

\* \* \*

Eddie Heywood is ailing again, and was not expected to make the Ella Fitzgerald engagement at Billy Berg's in Hollywood as skedded. But Vic Dickenson's band is holding forth in fine shape. . . . Neil Hefti and frau, Frances Wayne, followed Anita O'Day and Johnny White's Quintet into Angelino's eatery on Wilshire Blvd., with Shelly Robin, Herbie Steward, Joe Mondragon and Irv Cottler backing Fran's songs and Hefti's horn. . . . Walt Yoder will quit as Woody Herman's bassist and become road manager of the herd, Abe Turchen remaining in California to book it. The same Joe Mondragon as above, who has previously worked with Woody, will take over Yoder's book. . . . Aaron Copland is writing the music for "The Pony," Steinbeck story which Republic is shooting.

\* \* \*

New Orleans wax expert Orin Blackstone has a surefire click mag for collectors—and dealers too—in his new "The Jazzfinder" publication, a monthly peddling for \$2 annually. His address is 439 Baronne, New Orleans (13) La. . . . As of Feb. 1, a total of 600 different versions of Handy's "St. Louis Blues" had been recorded. Is that a new high? . . . To B. P. and those who have inquired recently: The Tuesday night "Eastside Jazz Concert" over Hollywood's KFWB has been aired for years, 75 minutes of le hot, with Gene Norman and Old Man Dex spinning and gabbing and trying desperately to mix 'em up enough to please everyone. It ain't easy!!

\* \* \*

Hollywood musicians, singers, bandleaders, acts and all the show biz unions are currently engaged in a fight to death with civic officials, who arbitrarily charge that eight local night clubs have been checked by investigators and that "undesirable" patrons were found enjoying themselves in the spots.

The civic nabobs demand that the clubs be closed, padlocked, put out of existence.

But what is an "undesirable" patron? Who is to judge? "Undesirable" patrons frequently patronize movie theatrs, drugstores and pen-and-pencil shops, too.

Witch-hunts can be—and are today—dangerous things.

It could happen in your town too.

# Russell's New Show Tees Off on Mutual Starting March 11th

(This Month's Cover Feature)

Immediately upon his return this month from New York to Hollywood, Andy Russell will launch his new radio program for a national camera manufacturer.

The program will be aired by Mutual, and its hundreds of affiliated stations, starting March 11.

Sharing the microphone with the popular young baritone, who was born and reared in Los Angeles, will be Marion Hutton and the singing Pied Pipers. Blonde Marion was featured soloist with the late Glenn Miller's band, before Pearl Harbor, and has since been making her way as a single.

## Follows Paramount Date

The Pipers, comprised of June Hutton, Chuck Lowry, Hal Hopper and Clark Yocum, have been in demand for records and movies as well as various radio shows for nearly a decade.

Russell spent most of February in New York headlining the stage bill at the Paramount Theater. He has developed numerous comic routines to use in conjunction with his vocal arrangements.

## Sinatra to Conduct Ork

Ray Sinatra, who admits to being "distantly related" to Frankie, will lead the orchestra which will accompany Russell, the Pipers and Miss Hutton. Andy's last air assignment was on the Hit Parade for Lucky Strikes.



THAT'S DOROTHY Lamour, suh, latching a flustered Skitch Henderson on the set of United Artists' "A Miracle Can Happen" film starring Jimmy Stewart, Hank Fonda and Paulette Goddard. Lamour has a "special" part; Skitch sketched the musical score.

## Aragon Staying Open After All

One of California's landmarks in the music biz, the Aragon Ballroom on Lick Pier in nearby Ocean Park, will not close as its patrons and musicians feared.

Owner Charles Lick, who also makes "Eastside" beer, drew up new agreements last month with Gordon Satterup, who has leased the big room from Lick for many years, and Satterup will continue in his post.

What's more, bands of higher calibre are likely to be featured at Aragon this summer. Xavier Cugat follows Harry James as a "weekends" attraction this month.

## B. Kuhn Has New Ork, Name, Show

That new 12-piece combo which is being aired from Hollywood on the Hank McCune program is led by Bob Keen, who changed his name from Bob Kuhn when he signed contracts for the show.

Keen, a clarinetist who has worked with most of the top west coast bands, is using A-1 sidemen on the broadcasts, including Jimmy Rowles, piano; Artie Shapiro, bass; Joe Koch and Walter Weidler, saxes, and Max Albright on drums. Bill Gillette, one of the best of California's current crop of young arrangers, is turning out most of Keen's—or Kuhn's—scores.

## 10 MGM Musicals Set

MGM is preparing 10 musicals for films, including two based on the careers of Rodgers and Hart and Kalmar and Ruby, famed songwriting teams.



MARTHA STEWART once sang with dance bands—including Claude Thornhill's—under the name of Martha Wayne. Now she's clicking on the screen. She looks like this in Universal-International's "Are You With It?" musical. She's a carnival queen.

## Gut-Scraper Brings Cavallaro Ork to 27

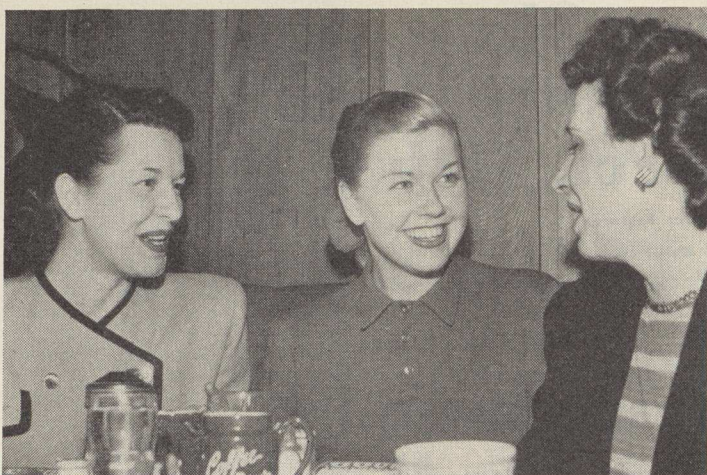
After a vacation in Los Angeles, Carmen Cavallaro upped and began rehearsing an augmented society combo with an entire string section added. The Cavallaro payroll now lists 27 musicians. On Feb. 9, Carmen and his new crew shoved off for Waco, Tex., launching a series of "concerts," which will keep him hopping for four weeks.

## Now It's Official; Filice is Felice!

"The music mags all spell my name Felice. All my mail is addressed to Felice. So I'm changing my name."

Ernie Filice, leader of the Ernie Filice Quartet which has been faring well the past two months at Cezar's Hollywood nitery, and also on Capitol discs, thus explained why he was switching the spelling of his name. From now on, he wants it known, the "official" spelling of the name is F-E-L-I-C-E.





**COFFEE DAN'S**, a Vine street eatery which is swiftly becoming a sort of Hollywood Lindy's, attracted these three chicklets last month. Anita Ellis of the Red Skelton show, Doris Day of Warner Brothers' films (who once sang with Les Brown) and Jeanette Goldenberg, who accompanies both thrushes, are pictured sitting one out. And they ain't talkin' about the new look!

## "Music City" Picture To Feature Top Disc Stars

For his next movie musical, tentatively titled "Music City," Sam Coslow has high hopes of presenting the most sensational lineup of recording artists ever assembled for a motion picture.

Coslow, at one time one of the nation's top songwriters, spent the last part of February negotiating with Perry Como, Jo Stafford, Peggy Lee, the King Cole Trio, Nellie (Real Gone) Lutchter, Frankie Laine, Ginny Simms, the Pied Pipers, Vic Damone, the Harmonicats and the orchestras of Stan Kenton, Red Ingle and Tex Williams.

To be released by United Artists, "Music City" will go into production, Coslow said, in early April on the Sam

Goldwyn lot and will be the first of five films which Coslow will produce for UA release.

Coslow, obviously, will not be able to sign every artist he has in mind. But if he gets only half of them he'll have a sock marquee listing. Hollywood agents are chasing Sam all over town these days trying to sell him acts. But Sam only wants the big 'uns!

### London Soon To See Carmen Miranda's Act

Carmen Miranda's plans after she finishes her current Florida engagements are for a date at the Palladium in London starting April 26. Upon her return to the States she will make a musical at MGM.



**THE BIG** laugh this month along the Hollywood stem is pegged around the brilliant management of the Red Skelton show, Doris Day of Warner Brothers' films (who once sang with Les Brown) and Jeanette Goldenberg, who accompanies both thrushes, are pictured sitting one out. And they ain't talkin' about the new look!

Billy Shaw, Diz's aggressive mentor, convinced the British union toppers that Gillespie's music was "educational." Spike Jones, on the other hand, was set for four weeks at the Palladium in London at \$20,000 per—and then the British union suddenly refused Jones the right to perform in the past.

"Educational" or not, Gillespie's band got the green light when the music of Lucky Strike Hit Parade. And James' Jones, Stan Kenton, Nat Cole, and others was nixed by Chesterfield in the spot that the It was quite a hoax, the Vine street Glenn Miller gave up when he en-mob agrees, and worth a few laughs. Maybe Diz should be tagged "Professor" from here on out.

Funeral services for Bill (Doc) Sexton, popular contact man for Burt & Van Heusen, who was killed in the Hollywood Cahuenga pass in a motor car crash, were held Feb. 3 and burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery, North Hollywood. Sexton, who gave up a career as a veterinarian and became one of the three most successful song pluggers in the nation, was alone in his car when it collided with a truck.

The new program emanates from the Hollywood CBS studios and is beamed out over more than 150 stations.

Peggy Almquist married Dennis D. Dave Garroway, Chicago, and Jack Eigen, New York, top disc-spinners in their respective areas, are in Hollywood to be filmed for sequences in Columbia's "I Surrender, Dear" musical which will feature Gloria Jean. Al Jarvis was scheduled for a spot, too, but pulled out at the last moment.

Peter Potter, instead, will "act" the west coast's jock rep. He has appeared in movies previously, and is noted for his below-the-M-D-line accent.

Musicians returning to Los Angeles from Texas tours assert that the famed Lone Star jazz pianist, Peck Kelley, losing his eyesight, Kelley, a legend in hot music circles, has steadfastly refused fabulous offers to leave the stage although men like Whiteman, Tom Dorsey and countless others have begged after his talents for more than a decade. Kelley works in the Houston area.

## Mercer Joins New P.M. Smoke Show

Shore, James Ork Also Shake Mike

Johnny Mercer became a surprise added starter on the new Dinah Shore-Harry James program for Philip Morris smokes last month over CBS.

The first program hit the ether on Feb. 13, marking Dinah's first professional assignment since she gave birth to a daughter in early January.

Mercer, no newcomer to radio, emceed the show and contributes an occasional song himself. Oddly, Mercer has been the star of previous airshows sponsored by tobacco firms. Camels, Lucky Strikes and Chesterfields have all sponsored him in the past.

Dinah, last year, appeared on the Lucky Strike Hit Parade. And James' Jones, Stan Kenton, Nat Cole, and others was nixed by Chesterfield in the spot that the It was quite a hoax, the Vine street Glenn Miller gave up when he en-mob agrees, and worth a few laughs. Maybe Diz should be tagged "Professor" from here on out.

The new program emanates from the Hollywood CBS studios and is beamed out over more than 150 stations.



**WOODY HERMAN** gets rough with his two trombone soloists, Ollie Wilson and Earl Swope. But you think he's arguing about music? Not Woodrow. He's arguing that the Cards will win the National League pennant. When Herman and his men aren't squabbling they play nightly at Hollywood Palladium.

## Cugat Set For Pacific Flight

Xavier Cugat will fly his entire orchestra to Manila in early May to ballyhoo a new Philippine airline. The fiddler and candy-maker, who just closed a run at Ciro's, also intends to play Honolulu, Hilo and Guam before returning to Hollywood.

"The job," Cugat said, "it pays \$50,000 and our transportation naturally. We will tour 10 days, eleven days at most." A massive DC-6 will haul the outfit westward. No name bands have played Manila since before the war, although several have hit Hawaii.

Cugat's ork will play dates this month at the Aragon Ballroom in Ocean Park, outside Hollywood. And the band is always busy, days, at MGM. For the latest pic of Cugey, with beauty, see Page 9.

Otherwise, the guy ain't got a thing to do.

## No Dinah Shore For 'Venus' Film

Dinah Shore will not play the role of a singing secretary in U-I's "One Touch Of Venus" starring Ave Gardner. The singer is too busy with her new radio show—which also features Johnny Mercer and Harry James' band—and the part will be played by Eve Arden. The studio changed the part so that Miss Arden won't have to sing. Robert Walker is the male star. Shooting started Feb. 5 with William Seiter directing. Miss Gardner will do four dance routines, her first terping in films.



**JOHNNY MERCER**  
With PAUL WESTON and His Orchestra

**'THE THOUSAND ISLANDS SONG'**  
A musical howl! From the Musical "Angel in the Wings"

**'HOORAY FOR LOVE'**  
With the Pied Pipers  
From Universal-International's "Casbah"

**Capitol** RECORD No. 15028

**Margaret Whiting**

With Frank DeVol and His Orchestra



**'BUT BEAUTIFUL'**  
From Paramount's "Road To Rio"

**'NOW IS THE HOUR'**  
(Maori Farewell Song)  
Smash ballad hit from England

**Capitol** RECORD No. 15024





**MEL POWELL**, gifted young pianist, arranger and composer of Benny Goodman orchestra renown, soon will be featured on Capitol records. Only 25, Mel performed in the late Glenn Miller's army band in Europe during the war and now makes his home in Hollywood.

# Mel Powell's Agile 88 Latin American Music—What Is It?

## Soon To Be Featured On Capitol Biscuits

The scintillating pianostylings of Mel Powell, 25-year-old pianist and composer who zoomed into topflight circles a few years ago as a member of Benny Goodman's band, soon will be featured exclusively on Capitol discs.

Powell concluded negotiations with the wax-makers in late December and tallowed a gang of masters just a whisper ahead of the AFM deadline, it now can be revealed.

Powell, who is married to Martha Scott, the actress, is a native New Yorker who now lives in Hollywood. At 12, he led his own band—the Dixieland Six—which played at the Palais Royale in Nyack, N. Y.

Muggsy Spanier gave Mel his first job in Manhattan, in 1940. That slot led to the Goodman post. During the war, Mel played in the Glenn Miller army band, and recorded a series of sides in Europe which proved extremely popular.

A child prodigy, Mel is equally noted for his composing and arranging abilities. Since coming to Hollywood a year ago he has returned to the Benny Goodman fold and is heard on most of the current BG waxings. He also has been teaching and composing several "serious" works outside the jazz idiom.

No date has been set for the release of Powell's first discs for Capitol, but they will feature the young pianist with orchestral backgrounds.

## Mello-Larks Chirping

The Mello-Larks opened Feb. 16 at Billy Gray's Bandbox, Hollywood, and will hold forth at least four stanzas.



## Bureau Claims There Isn't Any

Sorry, folks, but there ain't no such thing as "Latin American music."

At least that is the opinion handed down by the Middle America Information Bureau, which is currently attempting to correct popular misconceptions about the music to which "Yanquis" step off the Latin sambas, rumbas and congas.

## Like American Accents

Between Mexico on the north and Colombia on the south, says the bureau, there are as many different "musics" as there are Middle American republics—namely, 11.

"After all," the bureau points out, more in sorrow than in anger, "nobody acquainted with the present-day speech of North Americans would talk about 'an American accent.' There is the Southern accent, the twang peculiar to New England, the Western drawl, and so on, each sharply distinctive from the others. And within those regional accents are countless subdivisions, until you get down to accents prevailing in just one corner of a town—for example, the 'Boston' accent, which is largely confined to the Bean City's Back Bay section."

Ergo, there is no "Latin American" music, any more than there is an "American" accent. The popular music of Middle America ranges from that of Costa Rica, which is purely Caucasian, to that of Haiti, where African rhythms and modes have crowded out all other influences.

## Here's the Background

Costa Rican songs are Spanish in character, European in melodic structure. But the Negro slaves imported into Haiti had such a profound effect on the native music that neither the aboriginal Indian nor the Latin strain survives. Latin influences on urban music are of recent date.

In Mexico, songs the melodies of which are probably 1200 years old, are still sung by aged Indians, who learned them from their fathers, and they from theirs, and so on back to the Mayans. Contemporary Mexico's popular music, however, is Spanish, but with a difference, its rhythms being definitely of the New World. Melodies and rhythms handed down from the ancient Quiche and Maya tribes of Middle American Indians are forever fixed in the folk music of Nicaragua.



**TELEVISION HAS bowed to the cowboy musickers in Hollywood, and here's the proof. Paramount's Station KTLA offers a half-hour of western music every Monday night led by Cottonseed Clark, and here with Clark on a February telecast are Merle Travis, Tex Williams and Jimmy Wakely. The gal? She is Maureen O'Connor. Clark uses records, along with top-name guests like these, to offer one of the most popular video presentations in the U. S.**

On the other hand, three sources originally native to Cuba — hardly remain. It is in the rural areas that the old Spanish element remains strongest, while the Negro influence reveals itself chiefly in the crowded sections, the cities of Cuba.

Each of the remaining Middle American countries, including Panama, Honduras — which gave Carlos Castel to America — El Salvador, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, has its own national music, the MAIB is eager to point out.

African and Spanish strains unite in true Cuban popular music. The "pentatonic melos" which today's crowd of beboppers consider so modern — and so go easy with that loose talk about a single "Latin American" music. According to those who know, there ain't no such thing.

# Martin Bags SEP Break; Lombardo Due in L. A.

Freddy Martin is coming out of hibernation, at the Los Angeles Coconut Grove, and making news.

On March 7, he and his bandsmen will begin a four-week vacation, during which time Martin will hang around his horses and prepare at least one for the coming spring racing season at Hollywood Park.

In April, Martin takes his band north to play the Hotel St. Francis in San Francisco. A tour east will probably follow in May or June.

The Saturday Evening Post, meanwhile, whose editors are only seven

years late in learning that Martin has done much in popularizing Peter Tschaikowsky's works in dance tempo, will shortly publish a lavish article with ample photographs (by Gene Lester) pegged around Freddy's music accomplishments.

Guy Lombardo is the Grove's choice for the spring season, opening April 13 for four weeks. Lombardo and his brothers haven't played a California location in many years.

Martin will return to the Grove in the fall. With his tenor sax and Tschaikowsky arrangements.

**JACK SMITH**

With the Clark Sisters and Earl Sheldon and His Orchestra



## 'BIG BRASS BAND FROM BRAZIL'

Mirthful lyrics, both English and Spanish; From the Musical "Angel in the Wings"

## 'I WISH I KNEW THE NAME'

(Of The Girl In My Dreams)



RECORD No. 15029

**BROTHER BILL**, Anson that spins biscuits daily over Hollywood KFWB. And frequently he gets help as was the case when Handy H. Derwin and Kay Starr dropped last month to read the commercial and select some decent discs. Derwin's band is a west coast favorite. Kay's solo stint at Slapsy Maxie has boomed her into one of the most popular sparrows around. Here's how they all look together.

*Andy Russell*

With Paul Weston and His Orchestra



## 'EASTER PARADE'

A fresh styling, with sweeping orchestral effects.

## 'I CRIED FOR YOU'

A new rhythm for an old favorite.



RECORD No. 15034





## It Happens

**M**ONOTONY OF campus life, U.S.C. style, was broken last month when Phi Delts, Sig Alphas, Pi Kappa Alphas and other Greeks on the Trojan campus welcomed Jo Stafford, above, for an informal guest appearance. Selected Joes then escorted Jo across town to Hollywood so she could present her regular Supper Club program via NBC across the nation.

**S**TRICTLY PROMOTION this intine pose pairing Esther Williams with a mercombines candy-making with wielding a baton. Xargat offers Esther a six-month supply of his own "Gulgats." Both he and Belle Williams are busy this making a movie at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

## in Hollywood



**A**RE YOU With It? Olga San Juan is . . . by a mile . . . as one of the stars in the U-I filmusical of the same title. A few years ago, Olga led a rumba band during intermissions in various New York hotels. Young Donald O'Connor and Martha Stewart also appear in AYWI with Olga; it olga be good.







LIFE WITH FATHER is tame stuff compared to mother, especially if mother happens to be any one of the four singing King Sisters. Here is the family group, starting at left with Donna K. Conkling, wife of Capitol's rep and artists chief, J. B. Conkling. Donna displays Candy and Jamie Conkling, while next to her Alyce K. de Azevedo shows off Ricky and Lex. Luise K. Rey, who is married to Bandleader Alvino Rey, poses with Liza and Robie, neither of whom yet plucks a guitar. At right, blonde Yvonne K. Cole holds Cathy and Tina Cole, whose father is Buddy Cole, prominent west coast Steinway-stroker. All four Kings, their four hubbies and eight offsprings have homes in the Los Angeles area.

# Walt Disney's "Melody Time" Film Will Emphasize Music

Walt Disney's newest film creation, "Melody Time," will feature the biggest list of entertainers ever employed in a Disney production.

The picture, full-length, is a cartoon fantasy. Names like the Dinning Sisters, Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians, Roy Rogers, Freddy Martin, Jack Fina, Ethel Smith, Frances Langford, Dennis Day, the Sons Of the Pioneers and Buddy Clark will all be heard on "Melody Time's" soundtrack.

Seven separate tales within one framework of legend and music are depicted. According to studio attaches, "Melody Time" will be exhibited later this year. It is likely that the Andrew Sisters will be added to the soundtrack.

## OUTPERFORMS ANY NEEDLE YOU HAVE EVER HEARD

The needle is mounted in a useful record brush, and fitted into a beautiful Lucite utility package (cigarette case size).

five dollars

*The Fidelitytone Classic*

A FIDELITONE TIP WILL NEVER CHIP

the ultimate

in addition

THE CLASSIC has these Patented Features, found only in Fidelitytone.

PRODUCED BY PERMO, INCORPORATED CHICAGO

in tonal reproduction in the preservation of records in eliminating record scratch and extraneous noises in increasing needle life thousands of plays in protection against needle damage (additional insurance for longer record and needle life)

Premium Metals Tip (Osmium Alloy) Floating Point Construction "V" Groove Locking Design

NOW AT ALL **Capitol** DEALERS

## MEET THE JOCK!

ADELINE HANSON is Minnesotan by birth, but attended Los Angeles' Polytechnic High and UCLA before breaking into radio on KFWB and KGJF. She now spins platters over Burbank's KWIK every night at 7:40 p. m. with 100 per cent emphasis on jazz discs. Unmarried, Adeline says her favorites are Ellington, Benny Carter and Art Shaw—the old Shaw band. Kay Starr and Ella Fitzgerald are her favorite thrushes. Her program is creating big talk in Southern California although it has been aired a short three months. She knows more about jazz than many a big-name, big-money jock.



## K. Kyser Honored

Kay Kyser was honored with a testimonial dinner Feb. 29 in commemoration of his 10 years on NBC. It was in Chicago, in 1938, that Kyser started his radio show from the Blackhawk Restaurant, Kay's wife, the former Georgia Carroll, helped celebrate a few days earlier by presenting Kay with a baby, their second.

## Wingy Still In Action

Wingston Manone and his horn opened a run at the New Frolics Cafe in L. A. on Feb. 6, his first engagement since closing at the Hollywood Susie-Q.

## Les Brown Giggling

Les Brown's band, still featured Tuesdays via NBC on Bob Hope's show, has been gigging weekends at the Trianon Ballroom in Southgate, an L. A. suburb. Brown now makes his home in Beverly Hills and refuses to go out on the road.



# Bing Eyes East As Baseball Season Nears

His mind at ease for the first time in many months, Bing Crosby is making plans to go east in April to catch the opening baseball games of the season. His interest is chiefly in the National league, where the Pittsburgh Pirates last year failed to show. Crosby owns a portion of the club.

J. Caesar Petrillo okayed Crosby's transcribing his weekly Philco program in an unprecedented gesture of goodwill, and so the Groaner will finish out his Philco season by transcribing at least six programs in New York.

Bing and his wife, Dixie, just returned from an extensive motor tour of California and Nevada. In Elko, he was made honorary mayor. Crosby owns a huge ranch near Elko.

## Jan Garber New On the Cap Label

"Serenade," a new Tin Pan Alley ballad sung by Ernie Mathias, will mark the debut of Jan Garber's work on Capitol records this month.

The ballad will be backed by "My Extraordinary Gal," the 1934 rhythm ditty, which Jan hopes to revive as an instrumental. Still featured nightly at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel, Garber has waved a wand for 20 years. His forthcoming platters for Cap were all etched before P-Day last New Year's eve, natch.

## Isabelita In Shorts

There's one thing about leading a rumba band—you can always make musical shorts. Paramount is featuring Isabelita and her Mocambo crew in "Champagne For Two" and "Samba Mania." Each short takes at least two or three days of work.

# Cowboy Musicians Will Put Kenton's Theme On a Disc

You think cowboy, or western, musicians can't play jazz?

Tex Williams will argue the point. He went into Capitol's Hollywood studios and recorded Stan Kenton's famous theme, "Artistry in Rhythm."

The Williams version will be titled "Artistry in Western Swing" and will be released about March 15. Pedro De Paul wrote the arrangement, which features solos by Johnny Weiss, Joaquin Murphy and Ben Garcia, guitars, in that order; Paul Featherstone, flute; Muddy Berry, tympani, and Mannie Klein, trumpet.

"Cowboy bands are not all corn," said Williams. "We can do things in a progressive jazz manner, too." No saxes were used on the session, but there were

four guitars, a harp, an accordion and three fiddles.

Stan Kenton, out on the road with his band, was not available for comment. He will just have to hear the thing when the record is released this month. (And then it will be too late to do anything about it).

Have You Heard "THE new sound?"



RECORD No. 15037

LES PAUL



'LOVER'

From Paramount's "Love Me Tonight"

BRAZIL'

Completely different!



# off the cuff

IT'S DEFINITE, now, that Nat (King) Cole and Marie Ellington will be married soon — on March 28, to be exact. The romance blossomed a year ago in New York. Miss Ellington sang with Duke Ellington's crew for several seasons. But she and the Duke are not related.

Alvino Rey's band and the Philharmonica Trio kept bumping into each other up in the Pacific Northwest, where both outfits have been on tour. The Trio now is playing the Frontier Club in Denver.

Martha Tilton's return to the Capitol label as a featured songstress may indicate that the waxworks is just now beginning to release some of her masters made a year or so ago—before she went over to Majestic for a short spell. Actually, though, Martha returned to Capitol last December. She had ample time to select new tunes and get them needed before P-Day.

This is the month that Lady Day—Billie Holiday—wins her freedom. Her mentor, Joe Glaser, advises that she will probably be on the west coast "before June and maybe earlier." There's also a strong possibility that Earl Hines will work as Billie's accompanist. First man on the coast to put in a bid to present her to the public was Gene Norman, who hopes to have the Baltimore chanteuse as star of one of his forthcoming "Just Jazz" concerts. No contracts have been signed, however, according to Glaser.

One of the choicest booking plums of the year falls to Tex Beneke's troupe, opening March 4 at the N. Y. Capitol Theater. Tex is guaranteed at least six weeks—and perhaps even 10—because the screen attraction will be Mark Hel-



**LORRY RAINE, who like Margaret Whiting hails from Detroit, has been making a fast rise in California with her songs. Shown here with Mark Warnow, who is one of Lorry's strongest boosters, Lorry in private life is the bride of hard-punching Tim Gayle, prominent west coast publicist.**

linger's last, and best, film production, "Naked City." Beneke and his bandsmen recently departed Hollywood after a good showing at the Palladium.

Guitarist Les Paul plucking his strings again after a motor crash in Oklahoma which fractured a bone or three. His home is in Hollywood.

Mitzi Green will open as the headliner at Ciro's on March 3.

**JULIA LEE**  
And Her  
Boy Friends

**Capitol RECORDS**  
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

**'KING SIZE PAPA'**  
Lyrics like you've never heard before.

**'WHEN YOU'RE SMILING'**  
(The Whole World Smiles With You)

CAPITOL RECORD NO. 40082

## 'Cowboy' Film Next On Louie Jordan's Sked

Louie Jordan joins the ranks of movie cowboys this month when he takes his Tympany Seven into the flick studios to be featured in "Look Out," a musical which Jordan and his manager, Berle Adams, are producing themselves.

Fully recovered from his recent illness, which was really an exhausted condition rather than an organic ailment, the sax-playing leader said the film will be a "musical western."

New members of Jordan's band include Billy Hadnott, rated one of the finest bass-pluckers on the coast, and the veteran Bill Doggett, pianist, who has played for Lucky Millinder, the Ink Spots and others down through the years.

Jordan and his crew wend their way east in April.

## Metro Seeks Girl To Play Role of 'Red Hot Mama'

They're still burning the midnight oil in Metro's plush executive offices in Culver City in an attempt to set a cast for "Some Of These Days."

The picture will be based on the career of Sophie Tucker. Judy Garland has been mentioned by various columnists as being in line for the Tucker role, but inside sources on the MGM lot declare another young actress—perhaps Angela Lansbury, or Kathryn Crayson—will win the part at the last minute.

Sophie, a fabulous show biz figure, has given more than \$500,000 to various charities in recent years.

MGM has contracted Gian Carlo Menotti, whose "The Medium" and "The Telephone" operas were top Broadway hits last season, to a contract which will find him writing and directing his own works. First film to be set is "Happy Ending," which Arthur Freed will produce.

Conrad Gozzo, lead trumpet, remained in California when Tex Beneke's band returned east. Only three pre-war Glenn Miller men remain now, Jimmy Priddy and "Muley" Tanner, trombone, and Beneke himself.



**GERTRUDE NIESEN** has just opened at the Florentine Gardens in Hollywood, doing her "I Wanna Get Married" act as she recently did it at the New York Copacabana. She's in for four weeks, and hopes to make a picture while in California.

Perry Como, who broke off his 20th-Fox acting contract a year or so ago because he was "fed up" with making third-rate movies, will make a new film contract shortly. Como insists that he be allowed to take a gander at the story—and script—before he signs a new deal.

In making application to FCC for authority to construct a new 1000-watt radio station in Palm Springs, where he recently built a new \$150,000 residence with a huge swim pool shaped into an S, Frankie Sinatra revealed that his "net worth" is \$373,382 not including \$20,000 in life insurance.

Sinatra also asserted that he planned to broadcast a "Sinatra Serenade" program every day on the station, if the government will allow him to build and operate it. Frankie figures it will cost exactly \$24,811 to construct.

Billy Eckstine made a new test at MGM. Results haven't been announced.

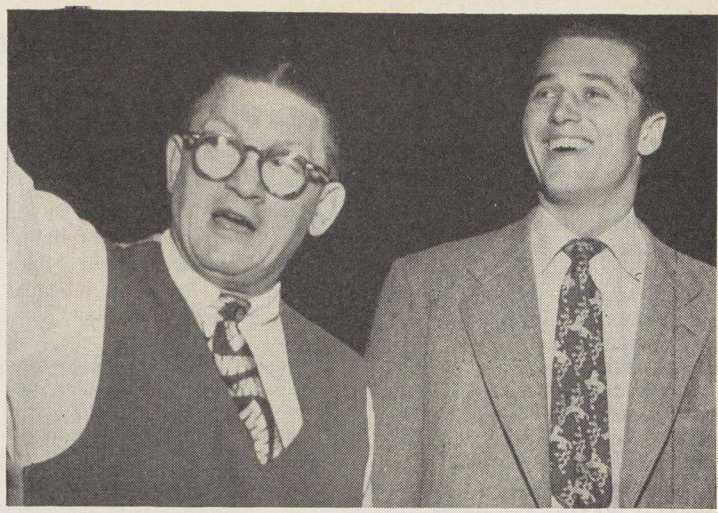
The Merry Macs are in London. Playing on the same bill with Jean Sablon, the quartet was to have opened at the Palladium March 1 for four weeks.

Joe Alexander still headlining a nitery show in San Diego and airing his own program over a Diego station.

Peggy Lee's "Rendezvous With Peggy Lee" album will be released by Capitol late in March. Peg spent two years preparing and recording the eight tunes.

Mary Ann McCall winning plaudits for her sock caroling with the W. Herman herd at the Palladium. They'll be there through March 14.

Warner Brothers decided to break in Gordon MacRae in a "B" film before setting the young singer into a starring role in a really important, big-budget pic. And so Gordie has finished work in



**VICTOR YOUNG gives a downbeat at a Texaco rehearsal pegged upon Gordon MacRae's booming baritone pipes. MacRae, at right, is heard Sundays via CBS. He's also busy making pix at Warner Brothers.**

his initial celluloid strip, "The Fighting Terror," which took about 30 days to shoot. With the experience under his belt, MacRae now is in line for an all-out buildup such as Doris Day, the former Les Brown canary, is getting. MacRae (see photo) is featured with Victor Young's music and Evelyn Knight every Sunday via CBS on the Texaco show.

Sophie Tucker, who recently closed at the Florentine Gardens, also is planning a looksee at London. The vet trouper will open on May 31 at the Casino Theater. She's worked England before, but not since the war.

Johnnie Johnston and wife, Kathryn Grayson, are off on another tour. They opened, together, at the San Francisco Golden Gate on Feb. 11.

Carolyn Grey, who once caroled for Herman and Krupa, gave up band chores to strive for a chance in pictures. After the usual struggle, she bagged a part in Columbia's "I Surrender, Dear." The part? A band singer.

## Irving Berlin Will Be Seen in Movie

Irving Berlin becomes a ham in MGM's next big musical, "Easter Parade." The songcleffer, one of the most prolific in Tune Pan Alley's history, will be shown in the title song sequence pushing Judy Garland's daughter in a buggy down New York's Fifth avenue.

The film will feature about a dozen Berlin songs.

## Veteran Songwriter Dies in Hollywood

J. Keirn Brennan, 74, who composed such songs as "Empty Saddles," "Boy Of Mine" and "A Little Bit Of Heaven," died at his Hollywood home on Feb. 4. Interment was at Forest Lawn in nearby Glendale. A long-time member of ASCAP, Brennan also was noted for his poetry. He is survived by a brother and a daughter.

**peggy lee**

**MAÑANA**  
Novelty song with a Latin flavor

**'ALL DRESSED UP WITH A BROKEN HEART'**  
CAPITOL RECORD NO. 15022

**Capitol RECORDS**  
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.



## CC who's where

WOODY HERMAN: Palladium.  
XAVIER CUGAT: Aragon Ballroom.  
ELLA FITZGERALD: Billy Berg's.  
LES BROWN: Trianon.  
VIC DICKENSON: Billy Berg's.  
RED INGLE: Casbah Club.  
WINGY MANONE: New Frolics Cafe.  
KAY STARR: Slapsy Maxie's.  
ERNIE FELICE: Cezar's.  
MITZI GREEN: Ciro's.  
WALTER GROSS: Cezar's.  
JAN GARBER: Biltmore Hotel.  
BOBBY SHORT: The Haig.  
PETE DAILY: Hangover Club.  
NEAL HEFTI: Angelino's.  
FRANCES WAYNE: Angelino's.  
ZUTTY SINGLETON: Swanee Inn.  
DICK PETERSON: Zamboanga.  
CHUCK GOULD: Florentine Gardens.  
DICK STABILE: Slapsy Maxie's.  
ABBEY BROWNE: Charley Foy's.  
JOE REICHMAN: Ambassador Hotel.  
JOHNNY OTIS: Cricket Club.  
GERTRUDE NIESEN: Florentine Gardens.  
CHAUNCEY GRAY: Mocambo.

## MEET THE JOCK!

SCOTT DOUGLASS is 27, unmarried and eager. As one of New England's most handsome wax-whirlers, he feels

he's a transplanted Californian who, eventually, will have to return to sunny climes for his own good. Attended Hollywood High, writes poetry and enjoys the fan mail his programs pull at Station WALE in Fall

River, Mass., where he also is musical director. Scott believes most of today's jazz is lousy; the old Benny Goodman band is his idea of great music.



# Andy Parker Makes Bow On Capitol Discs

By LEE GILLETTE

A whole batch of entertaining biscuits were recorded just before the recording ban became effective by Andy Parker and Plainsmen, it can now be announced.

Parker's first release will couple "Ruby Red Lips" with "Texas Belle," which was introduced for the first time on Cottonseed Clark's KTLA television program in Hollywood last month. Parker and the Plainsmen also engraved a couple of sides with Tex Ritter, slated for release shortly.

### Eddy Arnold to California

Speaking of Ritter, he hit the road in February to appear, in person, at Dallas, Houston and other cities. Soon he will be playing as far back east as Pennsylvania. His wife and son, one-year-old Tommy Ritter, toured the Lone Star state with him but returned home to California when Tex started east.

WSM's popular Eddy Arnold is preparing a tour of California auditoriums. He gets a grand a night (That's 1,000 \$1 bills) guarantee and has become one of the nation's top folk balladeers in little more than a single year.

### Cooley Revamping His Band

Bouquets to: Spade Cooley for planning to drop his trumpets and saxes in favor of a real western combo. . . . T. D. Kemp of the Kemp circuit for letting Tex Ritter come home early to record before the deadline. . . . El Monte (California) High School for picking Cap's Cliffie Stone as their number three record jockey, among such pop jocks as Hawthorne, Al Jarvis, Peter Potter, Frank Bull and Gene Norman. . . . Tex Williams for hiring Joaquin, the top steel guitar man in the western business. . . . Capitol for releasing Tex Ritter's "Rye Whiskey" and "Boll Weevil" as a single. It was originally in his album of cowboy songs. . . . Hal Horton and KRLD for their untiring promotion of folk



A BIG BOUQUET is awarded Spade Cooley, western fiddler, by Columnist Lee Gillette. Cooley is dropping his trumpets and saxes in favor of a "real" western combo. Spade, however, will continue to front the group while sawing the catgut.

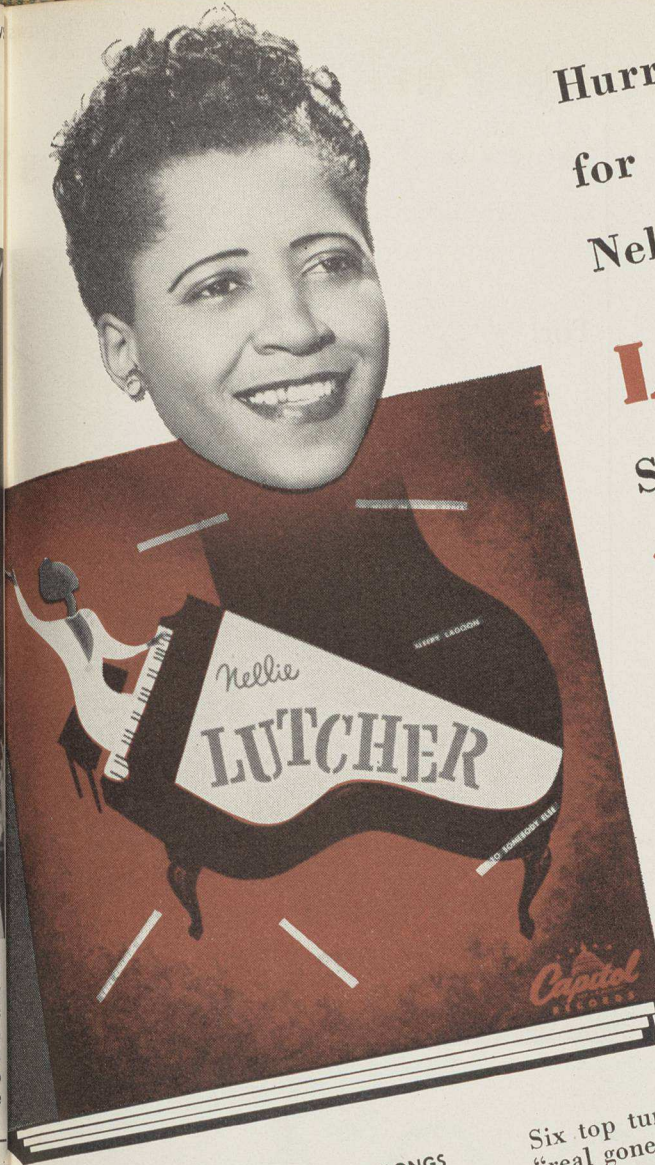
artists. . . . His many admirers for their kind messages of consolation to the family of the late Jack Guthrie. Jack's "Oklahoma Hills" will go down in musical history as one of the greatest of the great western songs, and we'll always remember him as one of the greatest of the great western singers.

## WB's Max Steiner Turning Out a Book

Considered by many to be the most talented composer for films, Max Steiner hopes to reveal some of his technique in a forthcoming book which Doubleday will publish next fall. Actual manuscripts of Steiner scores, including "The Victor," "Gone With the Wind," "Treasure Of Sierra Madre" and "My Girl Tisa," will be included in the tome.

Hurry on down  
for  
Nellie

**LUTCHER'S**  
S-i-z-z-l-i-n-g  
**NEW**  
**ALBUM!**



THE ONE I LOVE BELONGS  
TO SOMEBODY ELSE  
CHI-CHI-CHI-CHICAGO  
REACHING FOR THE MOON  
THERE'S ANOTHER MULE  
IN YOUR STALL  
SLEEPY LAGOON  
LAKE CHARLES BOOGIE

Six top tunes! And the way that "real gone gal" beats them out. M-m-m-magnificent! Every number either written by Nellie or specially selected for her big, dynamic voice.

Here's lots of Nellie. At her captivating, insinuating best. Singing her songs and ripping out a solid piano beat as only that Lutchy gal knows how. She'll get you—sure!

Better hurry on down to your record dealer. Ask for the new Nellie Lutcher Album. Do it now!  
CAPITOL ALBUM CC-70  
\$3.00 plus tax



Hear Nellie's latest - hottest single: "FINE BROWN FRAME" Capitol Record No. 15032

## JUST OUT!

'LEAP HERE'  
'METRONOME RIFF'

Hear the leaders of Metronome's "All-Star Poll," including STAN KENTON and His Orchestra — all on one record!

METRONOME'S  
'47 ALL-STARS



RECORD No. 15039



*This copy of **CAPITOL NEWS**  
comes to you through the courtesy of*

For:

\* Dealers with local 562 permit may use 1c pre-cancelled stamp (or meter) on mailings of 200 or more; otherwise use 1½c uncanceled stamp or meter). No envelope or sealing required. Mail at Post Office. When 1½c stamp is used, place stamp so it covers up the words "Sec. 562, P.L.&R."

## And...A Song Is Born



FOUR GIANTS of jazz are caught in this still from Sam Goldwyn's forthcoming "A Song Is Born" musical starring Danny Kaye. Left to right, Zutty Singleton, Barney Bigard, Benny Carter and Louis Armstrong, will

be seen—and heard—along with Benny Goodman, Tom Dorsey, Lionel Hampton, Charlie Barnet and others. It's all in Technicolor, and directed by Howard Hawks. The film will be released next summer.